श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : माननीय, मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि कुल मिलाकर यह कपड़ा वस्त्र निगम जो है इसकी कार्य क्षमता पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव नहीं पड़ा है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इसके जो वर्तमान प्रबंध निदेशक हैं, ये कब से काम कर रहे हैं ? वह दिन कौन सा है जिस दिन उन्होंने अपने इस पद का भार ग्रहण किया ? दूसरा, मंत्री जी ने इस बात को भी स्वीकार किया है कि वहां पर अनेक पद खाली हैं इस संदर्भ में मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या वहां पर भ्रष्टाचार की कुछ शिकायतें सरकार को या विभाग को प्राप्त हुई हैं और इन सारी चीजों को देखते हुए क्या मंत्री जी इस निगम का पूरी तौर से पुनर्गठन करने पर विचार करेंगे ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The present Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the holding company has been there since May, 1986. And, as I said, the process for selection is on. We would see that this period does not continue very much.

As regards complaints regarding corruption etc., I may mention that we have received them, but we have a regular vigilance set-up there. Here again, I would like to inform the House that good vigilance officers are not coming forward to join us. For example, we selected one I.P.S. Officer of a requisite standard and whose name had been suggested to us. And when we selected him, the State Government told us say after six or eight months that they could not spare him.

We are strengthening our vigilance set-up at the holding level as well as at the subsidiary company level. Any complaints that come, they are screened by them. Some of them are referred to the CBI also. We are pursuing all the complaints from vigilance angle which have been received by us.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : पुनर्गठन के संबंध में मेरा प्रश्न था कि इन सारी चीजों को देखते हुए यह जो कपड़ा वस्त्र निगम है क्या सरकार उसके पुनर्गठन पर विचार करेगी ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: There is nothing like that. Earlier I gave an example that we have abolished or dropped the posts of Directors. This is a process which goes on all the time.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 5.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: What about Question No. 4?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has been postponed.

Now Question No. 5.

Indian delegation to Sri Lanka to discuss Ethnic Issue

*5. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:†

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Indian delegations visited Sri Lanka during the last three years to hold talks to end the ethnic crisis;

(b) what are the names of the members of each delegation and the progress made by each delegation in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken to solve this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) Eleven Indian delegations have visited Sri Lanka since July, 1983 specifically for discussions with the Sri Lanka Government on the ethnic crisis in that country. The names of the members of each delegation are given in the enclosed statement laid on the Table of the House (See below).

India's good offices for the purpose of finding a peaceful political settlement to the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka were offered in response to requests to this effect from both the Sri Lanka Government and the Tamil Groups. India has repeatedly urged

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.

that a lasting solution to this problem can only be found through a negotiated political settlement within the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka. As a result of the discussions held by Indian delegations with the Sri Lankan authorities and the Tamil groups, a number of proposals have emerged. Although these cannot yet be considered as being fully responsive to Tamil aspirations, they do represent some forward movement.

The Government of India is gravely concerned at the military operations launched by the Sri Lanka Government in the northern and eastern provinces and the economic and communication blockade imposed on Jaffna. Unless Government get a clear indication that the Government of Sri Lanka is firm in its commitment to the December, 19 proposals as a basis for resuming negotiations; and that they are serious about having a negotiated political settlement and will not pursue a military solution, we are not in a position to resume our good offices. Sri Lankan actions on the ground in recent weeks do not inspire confidence in this regard.

List of delegations which visited Sri Lanka Since July, 1983

1. 28*th to* 30*th July* 1983:

1. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Foreign Minister
2. Shri K. S. Bajpai, Secretary (East)
3. Shri Ramu Damodaran, Addl. PS to FM.
4. Shri M.S. Narayan, SR. P.A.
5. Shri N.S. Rawat, PS to Secretary (East)

2. *August to* 1 *September* 1983:

1. Shri G. Parthasarathy, Special Envoy of PM.
2. Smt. Meera Shankar, DS(BSM)
3. Shri V. V. Ayyaswamy, PS to Special Envoy.
4. Shri Bhagwati Prasad, Security Guard.

3. 6 *to* 9 *December* 1983

1. Shri G. Parthasarathy, Special Envoy of PM.
2. Smt. Meera Shankar, DS(BSM)
3. Shri V. V. Ayyaswamy, PS to Special Envoy.
4. Shri Bhagwati Prasad, Security Guard.

4. 3 *to* 11 *January* 1984

1. Shri G. Parthasarathy, Special Envoy of PM.
2. Smt. Meera Shankar, DS(BSM)
3. Shri V. V. Ayyaswamy, PS to Special Envoy.

5. 24 *to* 28 *March* 1984

1. Shri Romesh Bhandari, FS
2. Shri S. T. Devare, JS(BSM)

6. 28 *to* 30 *May* 1985

1. Shri Romesh Bhandari, FS
2. Shri S. T. Devare, JS(BSM)
3. Smt. Meera Shankar, DS(PP)

7. 7 *to* 11 *August* 1985

1. Shri Romesh Bhandari, FS
2. Shri Ranjan Mathai DS(BSM)

8. 25 *to* BF *September* 1985

1. Shri Romesh Bhandari, FS

9. 29*April to* 3 *May* 1986

1. Shri P. Chidambaram, MOS, Minister of Home Affairs.
2. Shri R. Bhandari, Special Representative for Sri Lanka
3. Shri Balakrishnan Subramanya Iyer, Legal Adviser, MHA.
4. Shri Ranjan Mathai, DS(BSM)

10. 24 *November* 1986

1. Shri K. Natwar Singh MOS, MEA
2. Shri P. Chidambaram, MOS, MHA
3. Shri Kuldip Sahdev, JS(BSM)
4. Shri Shiv Shankar, JS
5. Shri Brahm Dutt, US to MOS(N)

11. 16 *to* 19 *December* 1986

1. Shri K. Natwar Singh, MOS, MEA
2. Shri P. Chidambaram, MOS, MHA
3. Shri S. Balakrishnan, Legal Adviser, MHA.
4. Shri Kuldip Sahdev, JS(BSM)
5. Shri Shiv Shankar, JS
6. Shri Brahm Dutt, PS to MOS(N)

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Madam Deputy Chairman, the 11 Indian delegations have been exploited by Sri Lankan Government for these three years to continue their genocidal programme to liquidate the Tamil population in the Island.

Now the Minister in his statement has said that we are not in a position to resume our good offices. With a painful heart I have to say that your good offices have been used as gallows for Tamils by Sri Lanka. Now, you say that you are not in a position to resume your good offices. You have thrown up your hands in despair. You have washed your hands.

Now, the economic blockade has thrown the entire Tamil population into the death valley of starvation. Even women and children are not spared. Even this moment when I am speaking bombardment is going on. What happened to your Prime Minister's three-point message on the 9th February which was described as an effective message? This has been thrown into the dust bin by the monstrous regime in Sri Lanka. Now, what are you going to do? He is continuing the killings. He has launched a major offensive against the Tamils. It is continuing. What are you going to do to reassert your solidarity with the victims of the genocide? Even today they are using the weapons which they have got from Israel, South Africa and Pakistan. What is your attitude?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Madam, I fully appreciate the strength of the feeling of the hon. Member. We share it. Yesterday the President in his Address to both Houses of Parliament has made a fulsome reference to our concern for the Tamil Population. We have in our demarches to the Sri Lankan Government continuously made them aware of the strength of feeling in the whole of India with regard to the treatment meted out to the Tamil people by Sri Lankan Government.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Madam Deputy Chairman, whenever our hon. Prime Minister advocated sanctions against South Africa. I did put a question to him that Sri Lanka, a member of the Commonwealth is getting arms from South Africa. At that time, the Prime Minister told me, You are making idiotic statements on the floor of the House. Now, it has been proved the armoured cars they have purchased from South Africa are being used to crush our population. Now, I would like to get a categorical reply from the External Affairs Minister, Mr. N.D. Tiwari, who is sitting silent here. Is it not your duty to give an ultimatum to the racisit regime which is killing our people there? For kith and kin of our people, are you going to give ultimatum with dire consequences to stop the military offensive? Is it not your duty to severe the diplomatic relations with them? Is it not your duty to give an ultimatum action? Is it not your duty to impose with dire consequences including military action? Is it not your duty to impose economic sanctions against Sri Lanka? I would like to know your response, Mr. Tiwari.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Well, I understand the anguish of the hon. Member. (Interruption). But whenever my hon. colleague, the Minister of State for External Affairs replies, he replies on behalf of the whole Government and he also replies on my own behalf. This has been the convention of this House. (Interruption).

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: That shows the attitude how you treat the Sri Lankan problem.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Well, I respect the hon. Member's wishes and therefore, I have stood up. As my distinguished colleague has just mentioned, our message to the Sri Lankan Government is very clear. In yesterday's President Address, this has been made very clear. (Interruption).

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: The President has said in his address that the Sri Lankan regime has created complications. (Interruptions).

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: It is not the question of consenting. What is the reaction to the reply of Jayewardene? He has not responded positively to this Government. What is your reaction? Are you going to take any direct action against Sri Lanka or not? (Interruption)

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Our two delegations consisted to our Ministers of State, Mr. K. Natwar Singh and Mr. P. Chidambaram have gone there. So, now, we are waiting for a specific response from the Sri Lanka Government and we have sent a message to them. But I would say that. . . . (Interruption)

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Every minute they are dying and you are waiting to pass a condolence resolution. (interruption).

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : अब तो समय नहीं है । क्या श्रीलंका के प्रश्न पर सभी पार्टियों की बैठक बुला करके आगे क्या कार्यवाही करें इस पर विचार करेंगे . . . (व्यवधान) जो भी देश की पार्टियां हैं, उनकी बैठक बुला करके श्रीलंका के खिलाफ कौन सी कार्यवाही करनी है यह आप निर्णय लेंगे । आप तो 12 बजाने के फेर में हैं ।

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : श्रीलंका के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही होगी मैं समझता हूं कि इस प्रश्न पर आपस में विरोधी दलों से निकट भविष्य में हम अवश्य बातचीत के प्रश्न पर विचार करेंगे जैसे ही श्रीलंका से उत्तर आयेगा । लेकिन खिलाफ कार्यवाही . . . (व्यवधान) शब्दों का प्रयोग करना असंगत होगा ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : अभी 30 सेकेण्ड हैं ।

उपसभापति : अब और कोई रिप्लाई नहीं दिया जा सकता । अगर आप पूछ लेंगे तो रिप्लाई देने के लिए समय नहीं है ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

New series of consumer price index numbers

*6. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to formulate a new series of Consumer Price Index numbers for Industrial workers to which dearness allowance is linked;

(b) if so, what will be the base of the new series and how many markets and items will be covered; and

(c) what are the other salient features of the new series of consumer price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The base year of the new series will be 1982. The number of markets covered will be 226. The number of items covered varies from 109 to 170 at different centres.

(c) The other salient features of the new series of consumer price index numbers are the following:—

(1) The number of centres has been increased to 70 as compared to 50 in the existing series.